[Translation]

Constitution of Electricity Regulatory Commission

2482. SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH :
SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO :
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH BHATI :
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY :
SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV :

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have disfavoured the converting of the Central Electricity Authority into a regulartory body at the national level;

(b) whether the Union Government have formulated a proposal for restructuring the Indian power sector on the basis of the recommendations of the Hyderabad based Administrative Staff College which submitted its report in April, 1997;

(c) whether an independent regulatory body was emphasised by all the Chief Ministers at the December meeting where a common minimum power plan was formulated; and

(d) if so, the main reasons for disfavouring restructuring of the Electricity Authority?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) to (d) Keeping in view the decision taken as a part of the Common Minimum National Action Plan on Power (CMNAPP), the Government have formulated a proposal to set up an independent regulatory authority at the State level. It is proposed that these regulatory authorities would initially be concerned with matters relevant to electricity tariffs. The Ministry is presently in the process of initiating the necessary legislative measures for which approval of the Parliament would be necessary.

[English]

Telephone Exchanges in Assam

2483. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased in state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up new telephone exchanges in Assam during the Ninth Five Year Plan and the current financial year 1997-98;

(b) if so, the details thereof, district-wise;

(c) whether the Government have a proposal for the expansion/modernisation of telephone exchanges in the State during 1997-98; and

(d) if so, the details thereof, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details for the current financial year i.e. 1997-98 have been given in Statement-I. Details regarding rest of the Five Year Plan have not yet been finalised.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Statement-II is attached

Statement - I

New Telephone Exchanges proposed to be commissioned during 1997-98 in Assam

Sl. No.	District	Location	Capacity	Type
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Barpeta	Barbari	256-p	C-DOT
2.	Barpeta	Belsore	256-P	C-DOT
3.	Barpeta	Morowa	256-P	C-DOT
4.	Bongai Gaon	Bongai Gaon	2000	C-DOT
5.	Cachar	Sicher	1000	RLU, E-10
6.	Cachar	Srikona	256-P	C-DOT
7.	Darrang	Dalgaon	256-P	C-DOT
8.	Dhemaji	Dholpur	256-P	C-DOT
9.	Dhemaji	Naobaisha	256-P	C-DOT
10.	Dhubri	Bansbari	256-P	C-DOT
11.	Goalpara	Agia	256-P	C-DOT
12.	Goalpara	Moronai	256-P	C-DOT
13.	Goalpara	Rangiuli	256-P	C-DOT
14.	Golaghat	Chinatoli	256-P	C-DOT
15.	Golaghat	Dhekial	256-P	C-DOT
16.	Golaghat	Maojan	256-P	C-DOT
17.	Golaghat	Naharjan	256-P	C-DOT
18.	Jorhat	Chinnamara	256-P	C-DOT
19.	Jorhat	Chungi	256-P	C-DOT